

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
JUDICIAL PANEL ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

**CHAIRMAN:**  
Judge Wm. Terrell Hodges  
United States District Court  
Middle District of Florida

**MEMBERS:**  
Judge John F. Keenan  
United States District Court  
Southern District of New York

Judge Robert L. Miller, Jr.  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Indiana

Robert A. Cahn  
Executive Attorney

**DIRECT REPLY TO:**

Michael J. Beck  
Clerk of the Panel  
One Columbus Circle, NE  
Thurgood Marshall Federal  
Judiciary Building  
Room G-255, North Lobby  
Washington, D.C. 20002

Telephone: [202] 502-2800  
Fax: [202] 502-2888

<http://www.jpml.uscourts.gov>

March 21, 2005

Honorable Ricardo H. Hinojosa  
U.S. District Judge  
1701 W Bus Highway 83  
Bentsen Tower, Suite 1028  
McAllen, TX 78501

Re: MDL-1657—In re Vioxx Products Liability Litigation

*Felicia Garza, et al. v. Merck & Co., Inc., et al.*, S.D. Texas, C.A. No. 7:05-17

Dear Judge Hinojosa:

Presently before the Panel pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407 is a notice of opposition to the Panel's conditional transfer order in the above matter pending before you. The parties will have an opportunity to fully brief the question of transfer and the matter will be considered at a bimonthly Panel hearing session. In the meantime, your jurisdiction continues until any transfer ruling becomes effective.

If you have a motion pending – such as a motion to remand to state court (if the action was removed to your court) – you are free to rule on the motion, of course, or wait until the Panel has decided the transfer issue. The latter course may be especially appropriate if the motion raises questions likely to arise in other actions in the transferee court and, in the interest of uniformity, might best be decided there if the Panel orders centralization.

- Please feel free to contact our staff in Washington with any questions.

Kindest regards,



Wm. Terrell Hodges  
Chairman